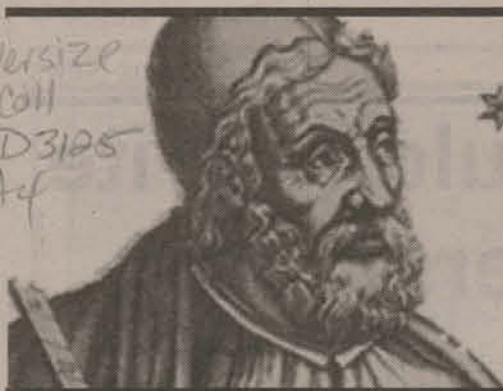


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Louisiana State University in Shreveport

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LSU SHREVEPORT

Thursday
October 5, 2006

Mascot pieces coming together at LSUS

Spring 2007 Homecoming set for first appearance

by Michael Doughty

Three years ago the SGA attempted to choose and name a mascot for LSUS. This year they seem to have made little to no progress on the issue.

On Sept. 28, the LSUS mascot committee gathered together to try and actually get something done. Of the 17 members on the committee, only six were in attendance. Despite being short-handed, SGA President and committee chair Denitra Dennis took charge and guided the meeting to a productive conclusion.

The first order of business was to choose a graphical representation of the mascot. Several pictures were available for the members, and after a half-hour of heated debate the committee decided to use the head from one graphic and the body and costume from another. The committee hopes the final image will be completed soon.

"We can do anything with the graphic if we keep the one identifiable icon image

"If we are lucky and we make a final decision within the next two weeks, the mascot may be ready by baseball season, but possibly not until basketball conference finals."

Gregg Trusty
Director of media
and public relations

of the pelican," said Gregg Trusty, a committee member and director of media and public relations.

The committee also decided on a logo adaptation of the graphic that LSUS can put on various items. The committee believes if LSUS has a mascot-inspired brand that many of the larger colleges have, the school's souvenirs will sell well.

The committee tossed around ideas and chose a

general concept but did not finalize the mascot plan. In Sept. 2005, the SGA and the Alumni Association decided the new mascot would be a pelican dressed as a river boat pilot.

The second topic of the meeting was to discuss the aspects and appearance of the costume of the still faceless and nameless pelican mascot.

The committee pieced together as much of a mental image as they could from their limited information, but they made no final decisions. However the committee is optimistic that a mascot costume will be ready soon.

"If we are lucky and we make a final decision within the next two weeks, the mascot may be ready by baseball season, but possibly not until basketball conference finals," Trusty said.

The SGA said that the planned date to reveal the mascot will be in Spring 2007 during homecoming weekend.

The final subject of discussion was the name of LSUS's mascot. Students have been sending in ideas for mascot names on Blackboard, and there are a possible 60 that the committee



LSUS is soon to have a mascot and mascot name. The mascot committee is deciding now on what both will be. Students have been suggesting names and should be able to vote on the final name on Blackboard.

will review over the next few weeks. After the list has been narrowed down the SGA

may ask students to vote for the final name on Blackboard.

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Debate Team

Forensics students place high

SPORTS • 7



Soccer

Lady Pilots 3-0 in conference

the **Almagest**

Volume 49, Issue 5

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Photographer

"Almagest" is an Arabic word meaning "great" or "majestic." It is also the title of a book written by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy who is pictured on the front page of our paper.

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Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Mike Schwalke, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be e-mailed or submitted to the Almagest office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by *The Natchitoches Times*.

Corrections

In Volume 49, Issue 4 we cited Dr. Laura McLemore as an assistant librarian when in fact she is assistant curator and archivist. Also, our calendar was wrong. Delta Sigma Theta, not AEO, hosted a bowling night.

Textbooks should rewrite prices for universities

by Chrissy Chiri

The cost of college textbooks has climbed to an all-time high. Since the late 1980s, textbook prices have increased six percent each year, according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

The GAO said the average cost at a four-year college for textbooks is \$900 per year. However, the Association of American Publishers said the figure is incorrect. The AAP said the average cost of books per year for a full-time student is \$580 and the GAO is inflating that figure by including supplies, which can range anywhere from computers to lab equipment.

The AAP said publishers strive to continually develop materials to meet the growing needs of faculty and students. With the increasing cost of tuition, students are learning ways to get around purchasing textbooks. Students have found they can purchase textbooks overseas at prices well below those of the bookstores. This is frustrating college bookstores, though.

The National Association of College Stores said it's wrong that the college textbooks stores have a text for \$100, which can be printed and shipped in from some other country for half that price. It is unfair competition for American publishers, the NACS claims.

The State Public Interest Research Groups published a book in 2004 called *Ripoff 101*, which reported ways the textbook companies are raising prices. The groups reported books are revised or include materials such as CD-ROMS and study guides that make them more expensive. Sen. Charles Schumer, D-NY, suggested giving a \$1,000 tax deduction for textbooks after reading the research by PIRG.

It is an exasperating problem for college bookstores, but no one can blame students for wanting their textbooks as cheap as possible.

One LSUS student avoids buying textbooks for any classes because of how expensive they are. He, like many other students, borrows the books from another student or photocopies the pages out of the textbook.

Students are going to find ways around paying the exorbitant textbook prices. Whether it's buying them overseas or just photocopying pages from another student in the class who can afford the book, students will do what it takes to save money.

Maybe Schumer was right and had the best idea – if students can get a refund on the money they spend on their textbooks then it won't seem so bad. It might be time for Congress to make a move and show students they are looking out for them and not just the colleges.

FACULTY SENATE UPDATE

Topics discussed at the Sept. 18 Faculty Senate meeting:

- Enrollment is down eight percent from last year.
- Two graduate programs have been submitted to the LSU System for approval – a Ph.D. in Bioinformatics and another in Computational Biology.
- LSUS will be moving from Blackboard to Moodle next semester.
- Faculty Senate plans to review and overhaul their constitution, which is outdated.

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New Way to See Stars

Kiley Pulliam, left, a senior physics major at Centenary College and Dr. Laura Whitlock, assistant professor of chemistry and physics, examine LSUS' new radio telescope on top of Bronson Hall. Whitlock acquired the telescope with help from a Board of Regents grant. Pulliam, as well as several other of Whitlock's students, assembled the telescope this summer. Pulliam is working on designing radio astronomy labs for future classes. Students are currently using the telescope in a limited capacity, studying the rotation of the Milky Way galaxy. Whitlock plans to offer a full radio astronomy class in the Spring 2007 semester. According to Cheri Veillon, one of Whitlock's students who helped put together the telescope, "LSUS is one of only a few colleges that can offer radio astronomy to undergraduates. Radio astronomy is a huge field."

MIKE SCHWALKE

Monster stalks LSUHSC Medical Library exhibit

by Mike Schwalke

Just in time for Halloween, the LSU Health Sciences Center Medical Library will feature a touring exhibit chronicling the life and times of Frankenstein's monster. The exhibit, "Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature," will run on the first floor of the LSUHSC Medical Library through Dec. 29. It follows the birth of the infamous doctor and his creation from the mind of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley through the current sciences of genetics and cloning.

"The Frankenstein motif has been used in a lot of different things," said Dee

If you go...

- What: "Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature"
- Where: LSUHSC Medical Library, 1501 Kings Highway
- When: Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Cost: Free

Jones, the head of cataloging at LSUHSC Medical Library.

This is the first large-scale exhibit that the library has hosted. The library will also display some rare books and old medical equipment from their archives.

Jones said the exhibit forms a timeline starting in the 19th century and follows through each major stage in the development of Frankenstein's monster from horror novel grotesque to pop culture icon. At every hallmark, the exhibit will explain the medical science of that time to illuminate how science played an integral role in the Frankenstein mythos.

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MIKE SCHWALKE

Students use archaic magnetic tape to listen to foreign language materials.

Grant provides funds to upgrade audio lab

by Saphronya Baker

Thanks to a \$48,000 grant from the Board of Regents, the foreign language lab on the second floor of Bronson Hall will soon get a makeover. "Cassette tape players are a thing of the past," said Dr. Lynn Walford, associate professor of Spanish.

The Board of Regents recently approved a grant which was spearheaded by Walford and coauthored by professor of French Dr. Megan Conway as well as Lillian Moskeland and Cecelia Smith, both adjunct instructors.

The Department of Fine Arts, Foreign Languages and Humanities will use the \$48,041 grant to upgrade the university's foreign language lab. The lab currently consists of cassette tape players. However, Walford said that the textbooks for the foreign language courses come with CDs and DVDs.

The grant will allow the department to keep up with technology by purchasing 25 new computers plus one for the teacher. In addition, the department will also purchase a projector so classes can be taught in the lab.

Walford said that the foreign language lab is vital to students' success in studying foreign languages because it

gives students "a chance to listen to the language and have oral practice along with written practice."

Bobbie Adams, a junior Spanish major who works in the foreign language lab, agrees with Walford. Adams feels that a lot of students do not utilize the lab as a resource for help but says they should.

Adams said, "It helps to hear the people say the words and respond to them."

Adams also said that she was excited about the grant because sometimes the few computers that are in place in the foreign language lab are all occupied and she has to wait. She said that the addition of the new computers in the audio lab will make the facility more accessible to more people.

Foreign language instructors and foreign language majors are not the only ones thrilled about the plans for the foreign language lab. Arlander Anderson, senior political science major, said, "It's awesome because they need to keep up with the technology of the world."

Walford began getting quotes for the new equipment on Sept. 27. She hopes that the new audio lab will be up and running by the beginning of the spring semester.

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LSU IN SHREVEPORT
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SEMESTER



Debate Team racks up awards

International Public Debate Association holds tournament

by S. Alan Trichell

The International Public Debate Association's season opener was a double-header beginning on Sept. 29 at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas. The first tournament was the Ouachita Showdown hosted by Ouachita Baptist University and the second was the Piney Wood's Warm-up hosted by SFA. Both tournaments consisted of 12 schools with 96 total contestants participating. LSUS made a strong showing in both tournaments, taking third place in the first tournament and improving on that to take second place in the second for an over-all finish of second place behind the University of Arkansas in Monticello.

In the Ouachita Warm-Up, LSUS broke two people into the elimination rounds in the novice division: first seed Veronica Brown and Sammie Bell. Both Brown and Bell



MIKE SCHWALKE

Joe Hayes, Debate Team treasurer, basks in the glory of his IPDA winnings. Hayes won first place in the first tournament and made it to the semi-final round in the tournament.

made it to the quarterfinals before being knocked out of competition.

In the open division, an advanced division that allows coaches and graduate students to participate,

LSUS broke two contestants: junior business major Joe Hayes and senior criminal justice major Ebony Holliday. Holliday went on to semi-finals before being knocked out while Hayes

went on to win first place. LSUS was awarded a variety of trophies in both tournaments for good public speaking skills.

In the second half of the swing tournament, LSUS

broke two contestants in the Varsity Division: first seed Nicole Goad and Alan Trichell. Goad, a sophomore business major, went on to semi-finals before being knocked out of competition. Once again Hayes broke in the Open Division, as did senior communications major Keith Milstead. Hayes broke as first seed while Milstead was second seed. Hayes made it to the semi-final round before being knocked out while Milstead went on to take first place and win the second half of the tournament.

"It's a great way to start off the season," said Milstead. "I hope we, as a team, continue to do well."

Debate Coach Jorji Jarzabek said, "I am very proud of everyone's performance. It is a clear indicator of team unity and team effort, and I look forward to the rest of the IPDA season."

GSA signs anonymously being torn down

by Lauren Anderson

Flyers put up by the Gay-Straight Alliance in order to notify students of club meetings are being torn down by unknown persons in every building on campus.

"The flyers are usually posted a couple of days before the meeting," said Ashley Wood, senior English major. "Ninety-five percent of the flyers do not last up on the walls until the meeting day."

No one knows who is tearing down the flyers, and no disciplinary action has been

taken.

"I don't think it's one person," said Dr. Adrienne Critcher, professor of computer science, who has been the club sponsor since spring 2005. The GSA at LSUS has been active since fall 2004.

Wood said, "I assume that people tearing down the flyers are those who have objections to LSUS having an organization geared towards bringing acceptance and open-mindedness about the (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender) community."

Marcia Unger, junior pre-medical major, said, "I am

completely surprised that someone would tear down flyers regarding a student-run organization." She said she was also surprised that university students would "act in such an ignorant and immature manner. I guess I didn't realize there was still such animosity towards organizations like a gay-straight alliance."

Critcher said, "(Intolerance) is going to hurt our university and our city in our abilities to attract the talented people who can move our city and our university forward. If you look at corpo-

rate America and if students from LSUS are going to other cities (for jobs), there is no tolerance for anti-gay sentiments," said Critcher.

Not only are these acts of destruction hurtful, but they are also against LSUS policy.

"It is a violation of university regulation," said Dr. Gloria Raines, vice chancellor for student affairs. "(The GSA) paid money for those flyers; nobody has any business taking down anyone's flyers unless (they) are in the wrong place. You don't destroy someone else's proper-

ty."

If anyone is discovered vandalizing, he or she will be put before the Conduct Board, which consists of five faculty members and two students. A variety of potential punishments exist, and each situation is handled on a case-by-case basis. One example is education or simply explaining the rules to the guilty party.

"Problems are created out of ignorance," said Raines.

Raines encouraged students to report vandalism to her or Dr. Randy Butterbaugh, dean of students.

'Guardian' worth seeing multiple times

Several scenes filmed at LSUS, Shreveport/Bossier City area

by **Chris Gray**

Kevin Costner, Ashton Kutcher, Sela Ward and Melissa Sagemiller star in this action romp through the life of deep sea rescue divers. After a fatal crash at sea and loss of his crew and best friend, Ben Randall (Costner) takes a teaching position at the elite school for Coast Guard rescue divers known as "A" School. While teaching his unorthodox methods, Randall comes across young swim champion Jake Fischer (Kutcher) who slowly befriends the

haggard veteran.

"The Guardian" was filmed in and around the Shreveport/Bossier area, and most of the pool scenes were filmed on the LSUS campus in the HPE building. When I was watching the film I kept looking for people I knew were extras in the film. Sadly I saw no one.

I have never been a fan of pretty-boy Ashton Kutcher. I'll always see him as the dumb guy from "That '70s Show." His performance in this movie was admirable, in fact it was better than his

performance in "The Butterfly Effect," but still it was not good enough for me to get involved with his character. Costner and the virtually unknown Melissa Sagemiller really carried the movie. They both gave incredible performances, and I could really get involved in the movie due to their superb acting. The supporting cast was amazing as well—some of the lesser-known actors performed as well if not better than the main characters.

The special effects were great. Most of the ocean

wave sequences were shot right up the street from LSUS, and the CGI helicopter and water sequences were so real looking I couldn't tell they were computer-enhanced images. However, "The Guardian" was not like most action movies these days which are so full of CGI they look like video games. The film relied on the acting to draw the audience in and not on the shock-and-awe factor of the special effects.

The acting was so good due to director Andrew Davis ("The Fugitive" and

"Under Siege") and his ability to convey emotion through his dynamic camera angles and scene setups which were so prevalent in this film. Every scene kept the audience members in their seats and immersed in the film. He took the actors' abilities and magnified them and produced one of the best action films I have seen in a long time.

"The Guardian" is a film I would see many more times. It inspires and is an enjoyable movie that keeps its audience members entertained.



Filmmaker returns home for screening of 'Burning Man'

by **Mike Schwalke**

On Saturday, Shreveport native and former LSUS student Michael S. Wilson will host a free screening of his film "Burning Man: Beyond Black Rock." The film will be followed by a question-and-answer session with Wilson who served as the film's producer and assistant director. The free screening, presented by Columbia Café, the Centenary College Film Society and the Robinson Film Center, will be in Kilpatrick Auditorium at Centenary College at 4 p.m.

"This is the end of the road for the film," Wilson said. "Burning Man: Beyond Black Rock" has competed in several film festivals over the past year. "It's the end of the circuit. I'm kind of bring-

ing it home."

The film documents the Burning Man Festival, an annual event held in the Black Rock Desert in Nevada. According to Wilson, the festival is hard to describe. People from all over the country—and all over the world—gather in the desert to create a temporary community devoted to art and self-expression. It is an inherently anarchic and supremely creative environment. But Wilson stressed that Burning Man is not a pagan orgy.

"A lot of people find these times to be depressing," Wilson said. "Burning Man is something that people can be proud of."

Wilson first attended Burning Man in 2000 and has been back every year

If you go...

- What: "Burning Man: Beyond Black Rock"
- Screening will be followed by Q&A session
- When: Saturday, Oct. 7 at 4 p.m.
- Where: Kilpatrick Auditorium in the Smith Building, Centenary College
- Cost: Free

since. Wilson and the crew spent three years documenting the festival. Although other films chronicling Burning Man have been made in the past, Wilson said that they all fell short.

"None (of the other Burning Man films) have had real distribution," he said. "Most have not been good, and the good ones didn't answer the questions I had."

Wilson said that he want-

ed to show the hard work that precedes the week-long festival and also try to capture the spirit and culture of the event.

"Burning Man: Beyond Black Rock" has been used by various groups as a fundraising tool. According to Wilson, people who have done projects related to Burning Man have used his film to raise awareness.

"It's what they use to explain to their parents what they do out there," he said.

This event is somewhat of a homecoming for Wilson who left Shreveport over 15 years ago to work in the development and marketing of such video game titles as Doom and Quake. He currently lives in Austin, Texas.

"I want to send up a signal that (the Robinson Film Cen-

ter is) programming things for adults," said Chris Jay, director of marketing and programming at the Robinson Film Center.

"One reason I wanted to do this is so that students can talk to this guy who's from Shreveport and done pretty well," Jay said. "I'm hoping this is the first of many (events like this) to come."

Although the film is not rated, Wilson said it was equivalent to a PG-13 rating for some language and nudity.

Columbia Café proprietor Matthew Linn will serve as moderator for the event. Free coffee from the Columbia Café will also be available. For more information, contact the Robinson Film Center at 424-9090 or www.robinsonfilmcenter.org

SPORTS

Lady Pilots undefeated in conference

Soccer team 10-1 overall

by **Chrissy Chiri**

The LSUS soccer team is a force to be reckoned with. After starting conference play last Thursday at home, the Lady Pilots have gone undefeated and are half-a-game out of first place in the Gulf Coast Atlantic Conference.

They have a 10-1 record overall.

At home against the Belhaven Blazers, LSUS won by a score of 3-1. Alicia Marshall and Katrina Blackwell combined for two goals and two assists in the second half for the Lady Pilots. LSUS goalie Kelsi McNew held the Blazers' offense to only one goal, which came in the second half of the game.

The Pilots were ahead 1-0 at halftime but added two

more goals as insurance. The home team's defense kept the Blazers from scoring more than just the one time, and it was the lady Pilots who left the field with the win.

In the Lady Pilots first conference road game, LSUS fought off the fiery William Carey Crusaders to win 5-3.

After traveling to Hattiesburg, Miss., the Lady Pilots went to New Orleans to face the Loyola Wolfpack. They dominated with a 7-0 win.

The win against Loyola was the Pilots sixth shutout of the season. In all 11 games played, they have outscored their opponents 41-7.

The Lady Pilots will face William Carey today at home at 4 p.m.



CHRISSEY CHIRI

LSUS player Alicia Marshall is one of the reasons for her team's success this year. Against Belhaven, she and Katrina Blackwell combined for two goals. Pictured for Belhaven is Mallo-ry Hodges.

LSUS student to lift in world competition

Kendrick Farris, an LSUS junior, will compete in the 85 kg category as a member of the USA men's team in the 2006 World Weightlifting Champions today in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

He is the youngest member of the eight-man USA World Team.

"Kendrick has been the top lifter, kilo-for-kilo, in his last three domestic meets," Pierce said, "including the 2006 National Champi-



Kendrick Farris

onships, the 2006 National Junior Championships (for lifters 20 years of age and under) and the 2005 American Open Championships."

As a result, Farris is the reigning National Champion and American Open Champion in the 85 kg category.

2006 SOCCER SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Opponent
10/5/2006	4:00 p.m.	William Carey*
10/7/2006	1:00 p.m.	Spring Hill College *
10/12/2006	7:00 p.m.	Univ of Mobile*
10/14/2006	12:00 p.m.	Spring Hill College *
10/17/2006	7:00 p.m.	Stephen F. Austin
10/20/2006	2:00 p.m.	Univ. of Mobile *
10/22/2006	1:00 p.m.	Loyola University
10/25/2006	5:00 p.m.	Belhaven College *
11/3/2006	TBA	Region XIII Tourney

* asterisk denotes a conference game.

Games in bold denote home games.

Fun & Games

Calendar of Events

Thursday, Oct. 5

7 - 8 a.m.
Fitness Cardio

10:30 a.m.
Michael Tillman, musician

Diversity Day Celebration

1 p.m.
Frisbee Golf Tournament
play begins

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Fitness Cardio

Friday, Oct. 6

6:45 a.m.
Running Group

12 - 1 p.m.
Yogalates

Monday, Oct. 9

3:30 - 4 p.m.
30-minute beginner cardio

Easy day to
change to audit

Tuesday, Oct. 10

7 - 8 a.m.
Fitness Cardio

9 a.m.
Career Fair

12 - 1 p.m.
Yogalates

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Fitness Cardio

At Dark
Movie Night on the Mall
"Superman Returns"

Wednesday, Oct. 11

12 - 1 p.m.
Wednesday Workout
Free Tennis Lessons

Thursday, Oct. 12

Fall Break

Friday, Oct. 13

Fall Break

Saturday, Oct. 14

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Pioneer Day

Thursday, Oct. 12

7 p.m.
Michael C. Anthony
Hypnotist, UC Theater

Mark Trail's OUTDOOR TIPS

BAKING SODA WILL HELP
REMOVE THE STRONG FLAVOR
FROM FISH CAUGHT IN MUDDY
WATER...

ADD 2 HEAPING TEASPOONS
OF SODA AND 2 TEASPOONS
OF SALT TO ONE GALLON
OF COLD WATER AND MIX
THOROUGHLY...



PLACE CLEANED FISH
IN THIS SOLUTION
OVERNIGHT, THEN REMOVE...
RINSE AND DRAIN BEFORE
COOKING OR FREEZING

Sudoku answers from last week

8	6	9	8	1	2	9	7	4
1	8	7	9	2	6	8	2	9
2	9	2	8	9	7	1	6	8
6	1	8	9	9	2	7	8	2
9	7	2	6	2	8	8	9	1
9	2	8	1	7	8	2	9	6
8	2	9	2	8	9	6	1	7
2	8	6	7	8	1	9	2	9
7	9	1	2	6	9	2	8	8

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Sudoku Puzzle

by Linda Thistle

		3		9		2		4
	1		6		4		3	
4		8	5				1	
2			7			4		3
	3	7		6			9	
9				3	5			1
	7			4	6	8		
	2		3			1		6
6		1			2		7	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way
that each row across, each column down and each
small 9-box square contains all of the
numbers from one to nine.

Bert Stroud, the Anthropologist

By: Mike Schwalke and Lou Manna

